



COUNCILMEMBER DONNA FRYE
COUNCILMEMBER MARTI EMERALD
City of San Diego

October 13, 2010

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger,

Last Friday, October 8, 2010, the California Legislature passed a bill attached to the legislation approving the state budget. The bill (SB863) allows San Diego's downtown Centre City redevelopment area to raise its spending cap for downtown redevelopment projects without conducting a blight study. The action by the State Legislature took place with no notice to the San Diego taxpaying public or its Redevelopment Agency Board. This is a matter of significant public concern that involves billions of dollars in downtown property taxes.

The Redevelopment Agency previously authorized a blight study and a public process to ensure that all concerns were heard in advance of taking action to lift the cap. The public interest demands that the local legislative branch of government, the City Council acting as the Redevelopment Agency, and the public be included in decisions, *before*, not after the fact. To ensure that the public does not lose faith in their local elected officials, the San Diego Redevelopment Agency has a responsibility to stand up for the public's right to know, the public's right to participate and the public's right to be heard.

As of the writing of this letter, you have yet to sign the legislation into law. It is in the best interest of the public that you do not sign this legislation, as it deprives the taxpayers of San Diego of their right to an open and public process. We request that you decline to sign SB863 into law, and allow San Diego's Redevelopment Agency to follow a public and transparent process in considering this matter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Councilmember Donna Frye
San Diego Redevelopment Agency
Boardmember

Councilmember Marti Emerald
San Diego Redevelopment Agency
Boardmember

